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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
10 WESTERN DIVISION

11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
12 Plaintiff,  
13 v.  
14 \$63,897.08 SEIZED FROM BANK OF  
15 AMERICA ACCT. NO. '9404, ET AL.  
16 Defendants,

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18 LARRY SOMUYIWA,  
19 EASY CHOICE MOTORS, INC.,  
20  
21 IREDIA JOE EKUKPE AKA JOE  
22 IREDIA EKUKPE.  
23  
24 Claimants.

No. CV15-07753-MRW  
[PROPOSED]  
CONSENT JUDGMENT AS TO  
CLAIMANT IREDIA JOE EKUKPE AKA  
JOE IREDIA EKUKPE  
DISPOSITIVE OF CASE

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26 This action was filed on October 2, 2016 against the defendants \$20,735.74 seized  
27 from JP Morgan Chase Bank account Number '5538 and \$1,470.34 Seized from JP  
28 Morgan Chase Bank Account Number '6865 ("defendant funds"). Iredia Joe Ekukpe

1 aka Joe Iredia Ekukpe (“claimant” or “Ekukpe”) from whom the defendant funds were  
2 seized, filed a claim and an answer on November 10, 2015. No other claims or answers  
3 have been filed as to the defendant funds, and the time for filing such statements of  
4 interest and answers has expired. Plaintiff United States of America and the claimant  
5 have reached an agreement that is dispositive of the action, and have requested that this  
6 consent judgment be entered as to these defendant funds and claimant only. Nothing in  
7 this consent judgment is intended or should be interpreted as an admission of  
8 wrongdoing by the claimant.

9 WHEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

10 A. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1345  
11 and 1355 and over the parties hereto.

12 B. The Complaint for Forfeiture states a claim for relief pursuant to 18 U.S.C.  
13 § 981(a)(1)(A) and (C) and 18 U.S.C. § 984.

14 C. Notice of this action has been given and published in accordance with law.  
15 No one other than claimants has filed a claim or answer and the time for filing claims  
16 and answers have expired. The allegations set out in the complaint are sufficient to  
17 establish a basis for forfeiture.

18 D. \$12,206.08 of the defendant funds, together with all interest earned by the  
19 government on the entire amount of the defendant funds since seizure, shall be forfeited  
20 to the United States of America, and no other right, title, or interest shall exist therein.  
21 The government shall dispose of the forfeited property according to law.

22 E. \$10,000.00 of the defendant funds shall be paid to Ekukpe through his  
23 attorney, Mr. Michael P. Heiskell, Johnson Vaughn & Heiskell, 5601 Bridge Street,  
24 Suite 220, Fort Worth, Texas 76112.

25 F. The funds to be returned to the claimant shall, at the government’s option,  
26 be returned by either check or wire transfer within 60 days of the date this Judgment is  
27 entered. If the United States elects to make the payment by check, the check will be  
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1 payable to “The Johnson Vaughn & Heiskell client trust account,” and mailed to Iredia  
2 Joe Ekukpe aka Joe Iredia Ekukpe in care of his attorney, Mr. Michael P. Heiskell,  
3 Johnson Vaughn & Heiskell, 5601 Bridge Street, Suite 220, Fort Worth, Texas 76112. If  
4 the United States elects to make the payment by wire transfer, the funds will be wire  
5 transferred to The Johnson Vaughn & Heiskell Client Trust Account. The claimant  
6 agrees to provide the necessary bank account information and personal identifiers upon  
7 request from the United States.

8 G. The claimant has released the United States of America, its agencies,  
9 agents, and officers, including employees and agents of the Federal Bureau of  
10 Investigation, from any and all claims, actions or liabilities arising out of or related to  
11 this action, including, without limitation, any petitions for remission, which the Claimant  
12 hereby withdraws and waives any rights he may have to seek remission or mitigation of  
13 the forfeiture of the defendant funds, any claim for attorney’s fees, costs or interest  
14 which may be asserted on their behalf, whether pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2465 or  
15 otherwise.

16 H. The Court finds that there was reasonable cause for the institution of these  
17 proceedings. This Judgment shall be construed as a certificate of reasonable cause  
18 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2465.

19  
20 Dated: May 6, 2019



21 THE HONORABLE MICHAEL R. WILNER  
22 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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1 **Approved as to form and content:**

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3 DATED: May 2, 2019

NICOLA T. HANNA  
United States Attorney  
LAWRENCE S. MIDDLETON  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Chief, Criminal Division  
STEVEN R. WELK  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Chief, Asset Forfeiture Section

7  
8 /s/ Michael R. Sew Hoy

9 MICHAEL R. SEW HOY  
Assistant United States Attorney

10 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
United States of America

11  
12 DA TED: May 2, 2019

13 Michael P. Heiskell  
MICHAEL P. HEISKELL  
Attorney for Claimant  
IREDIA JOE EKUKPE  
AKA JOE IREDIA EKUKPE

14  
15 DATED: May 2, 2019

16 Iredia Joe Ekukpe / sij w/p  
IREDIA JOE EKUKPE  
AKA JOE IREDIA EKUKPE  
Claimant

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